GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2232
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2016
Rohtang Tunnel
Reddy Shri A.P. Jithender

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made in construction of the Rohtang Tunnel till date along with the reasons for the delay in its completion;

(b) the details of the funds allocated / released / utilised towards the project till date, including the expected timeline for completion of the project;

(c) whether the contractors are facing any difficulties with respect to interim relief including determination and certification of compensation claims and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to expedite the completion of this project?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)
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(a) Out of a planned length of 8.80 km of the tunnel on Manali-Leh road the progress is as under:

Item	Length (in Km)	Total (in Km)
	South Portal	North Portal
Heading	2.90	3.10	6.0
Proper Benching	1.79	1.34	3.13
Egress element Excavation	1.66	0.66	2.32
Laying of kicker	1.63	0.56	2.19
Final Arch lining	1.28	-	1.28

The reasons for the delay in completion are as under:
(i) Encountering of Seri Nallah Fault Zone at the South Portal.
(ii)
Variation between tendered rock class and encountered rock class.
(iii) Limited working season.

(b) The expenditure incurred so far for the construction of the tunnel is Rs. 1335 crores against an allotment of Rs. 1458 crores. The revised time line for the completion of the project is August 2019.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) The Government has taken the following steps to expedite the completion of this project:
(i)
A Steering Committee has been constituted to review the progress of construction of Rohtang tunnel.
(ii)

Various agencies like Department of Science and technology (DST), National Institute of Rock Mechanics (NIRM) Bangalore, Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (CIMFR) Nagpur and Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology Dehradun are consulted for remedial measures to be taken to tackle the encountered poor geological conditions in the tunnels.
(iii) BRO has advised the Contractor to deploy more resources.

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